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REMARKS

Pending claims 5-25 were rejected Under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Tran (US 5,638,317.) That rejection as applied to the amended claims is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitation previously recited in claim 10. Independent claims 17 and 23 have been similarly amended.

With respect to claim 10, the Examiner referred to the LOCAL DIFF AMP of Fig. 3b, stating that the LOCAL DIFF AMP would be considered a databus sense amplifier "coupled between the primary and secondary databuses." The LOCAL I/O lines had been compared to the primary databuses and the MAIN I/O lines had been compared to the secondary databuses. However, it should be apparent from Figure 3b that the LOCAL DIFF AMP is coupled between the SUB I/O lines and the LOCAL I/O lines, and not between the LOCAL I/O lines and the MAIN I/O lines. The only device between a LOCAL I/O line and a MAIN I/O line is the transistor 146.

Because the Tran patent does not describe or suggest each and every element of the pending claims, the rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102 should be withdrawn.

With respect to claims 13, 14, 21 and 22, the Examiner has stated that "Tran has multiple specific applications." However, the noted claims recite that the memory is an application specific memory or is embedded in an application specific integrated circuit. The term "application specific" is a term of art that distinguishes general purpose DRAMS such as disclosed in Tran. The Tran DRAMS would not be considered "application specific."

With respect to claim 15, the Examiner notes that both arrays are addressed by the YDEC decoder to control which databus is to be accessed at a particular time. However, that is not the point of claim 15 which recites that a single databus of the secondary databus is timeshared by the arrays on both sides of the bus. In Fig. 3b of Tran, the array to the left connects to the left pair of lines of the MAIN I/O lines, and the array to the right couples to the right pair of lines of the MAIN I/O lines. There is no timesharing of a single pair of lines by the two arrays.

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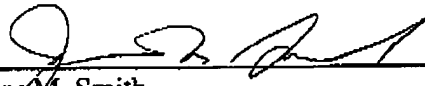
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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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